

# ARKANSAS FARM REPORT

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE / USDA

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ARKANSAS  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

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## ANNUAL AVERAGE WAGE RATES FOR HIRED FARM WORKERS DOWN

**ARKANSAS:** Annual wage rate paid to all hired workers during 2001 averaged \$7.20 per hour, down 7 cents from 2000. Field workers' average earnings decreased 19 cents to \$6.88 per hour. For combined field and livestock workers average hourly wage was \$6.85, down 22 cents from last year.

**UNITED STATES:** The 2001 annual average number of hired farm workers was 873,300, self employed operators 1.56 million, and unpaid workers 490,000. Annual average wage rate for all hired workers was \$8.44 per hour, up 34 cents from 2000.

### FARM WORKERS: ANNUAL AVERAGE, ARKANSAS, DELTA REGION AND U. S., 2000-2001

Item	ARKANSAS			DELTA REGION 1/			UNITED STATES 2/		
	2000	2001	% Chg.	2000	2001	% Chg.	2000	2001	% Chg.
	1,000 Persons			1,000 Persons			1,000 Persons		
Number of Workers: 3/									
Self Employed	-	-	-	81.8	82.8	+1	1,574.8	1,559.8	-1
Unpaid	-	-	-	22.5	24.0	+7	487.5	490.0	+1
Hired 4/	-	-	-	34.8	32.8	-6	890.3	873.3	-2
Hours Worked: 3/				Hours per Week			Hours per Week		
Hired Workers 4/	-	-	-	39.2	42.0	+7	40.1	39.9	0
Wage Rates:	Dollars per Hour			Dollars per Hour			Dollars per Hour		
All Hired Workers 4/	7.27	7.20	-1	7.03	7.12	+1	8.10	8.44	+4
Field Workers	7.07	6.88	-3	6.62	6.74	+2	7.50	7.78	+4
Field & Livestock	7.07	6.85	-3	6.69	6.77	+1	7.54	7.86	+4

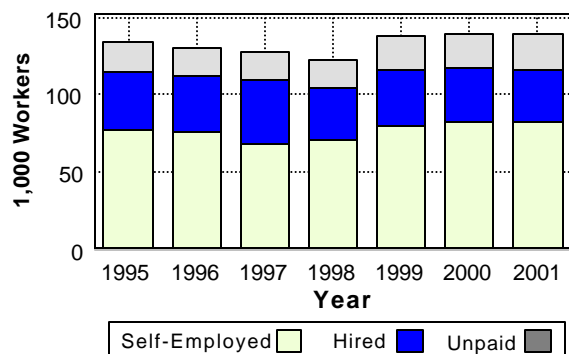
1/ Includes Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

2/ Excludes Alaska.

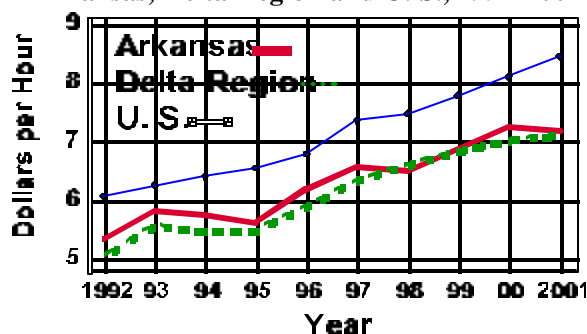
3/ Individual state data not available, but included in the Region and U.S.

4/ Excludes agricultural service workers.

Annual Average Number of Workers  
Delta Region, 1995-2001



Annual Average Wage Rates for Hired Workers  
Arkansas, Delta Region and U. S., 1992-2001



**HIRED FARM WORKERS<sup>1/</sup>: NUMBER, HOURS WORKED AND WAGE RATES  
BY QUARTER, DELTA REGION AND U. S. 2000-2001**

Year and Survey Month	Number of Hired Workers on Farms				Wage Rates by Type of Hired Worker			
	Total	To be Employed		Hours Worked per Week	Field	Livestock	Field and Livestock Combined	All Hired Workers
		150 Days or More	149 Days or Less					
	Thousands		Hours		Dollars per Hour			
2000	DELTA REGION (Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)							
January	24	21	3	30.6	7.04	6.51	6.83	7.35
April	29	21	8	37.3	6.53	7.04	6.68	7.06
July	44	29	15	39.7	6.39	6.92	6.50	6.86
October	42	31	11	45.0	6.76	7.13	6.82	7.06
2001								
January	17	15	2	33.5	7.56	6.62	7.15	7.73
April	34	28	6	45.5	6.55	7.34	6.65	7.09
July	37	27	10	41.6	6.63	6.47	6.60	6.93
October	43	31	12	43.0	6.83	7.37	6.91	7.13
2001	U. S. (excluding Alaska)							
January	*691	*573	118	*37.3	*7.76	*8.07	*7.87	*8.66
April	804	627	177	40.2	7.61	8.01	7.71	8.31
July	1,039	722	317	39.9	7.70	7.89	7.75	8.29
October	959	676	283	41.5	8.01	8.36	8.08	8.58

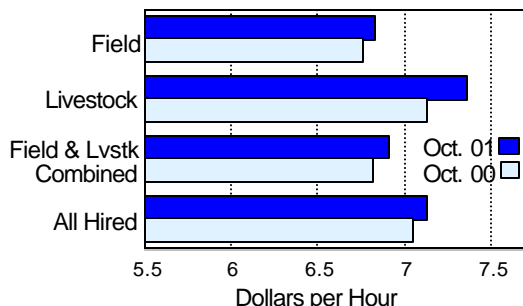
See footnotes below.

**QUARTERLY WAGE RATES OF HIRED FARM WORKERS<sup>1/</sup>: BY TYPE OF FARM  
AND BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, DELTA REGION AND U. S., 2000-2001**

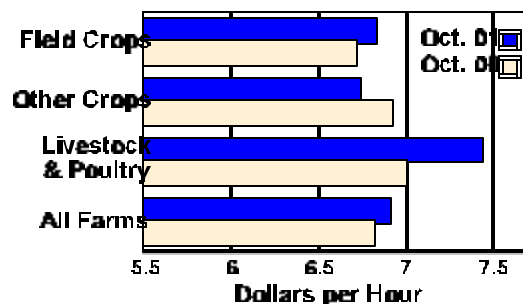
Year and Survey Month	Field and Livestock Workers Combined by Type of Farm				All Hired Workers by Economic Class of Farm				
	Field Crops	Other Crops	Livestock & Poultry	All Farms	Gross Value of Sales in \$1,000				All Farms
					<\$40	\$40-99	\$100-249	\$250+	
2000	Dollars per Hour								
	DELTA REGION (Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)								
January	6.91	7.11	6.62	6.83	6.21	2/	2/	7.60	7.35
April	6.53	6.27	7.19	6.68	7.92	6.84	6.78	7.17	7.06
July	6.19	6.70	6.96	6.50	7.38	6.47	6.76	6.88	6.86
October	6.72	6.93	7.01	6.82	6.93	7.87	6.98	6.91	7.06
2001									
January	2/	7.23	6.17	7.15	7.16	6.34	2/	8.91	7.73
April	6.60	6.22	7.05	6.65	6.77	5.71	7.37	7.35	7.09
July	6.54	7.14	6.30	6.60	2/	6.12	7.18	7.10	6.93
October	6.83	6.74	7.44	6.91	2/	6.81	6.72	7.15	7.13
2001	U. S. (48 States excluding Alaska and Hawaii)								
January	7.66	7.68	8.14	7.85	7.68	7.57	8.12	9.00	8.63
April	7.48	7.62	7.96	7.71	7.84	7.82	7.88	8.49	8.29
July	7.08	7.89	7.81	7.75	7.69	7.66	7.63	8.57	8.26
October	7.82	8.08	8.23	8.08	8.02	8.31	8.01	8.80	8.56

1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers. 2/ Insufficient data. \* Revised.

**Wage Rates of All Hired Workers  
by Type of Worker, Delta Region, October 2000-2001**



**Wage Rates of Field and Livestock Workers  
by Type of Farm, Delta Region, October 2000-2001**



**COW-CALF PRODUCTION COSTS AND RETURNS PER BRED COW  
SELECTED REGIONS INCLUDING ARKANSAS AND U. S., 1999-2000**

Item	Mississippi Portal 1/		Eastern Uplands 2/		United States 3/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	<i>Dollars per Bred Cow</i>					
<b>Gross Value of Production:</b>	372.03	428.48	351.17	408.89	432.26	491.31
Steer Calves	122.23	141.31	120.51	143.33	138.06	162.56
Heifer Calves	104.71	121.05	96.37	114.53	85.87	101.07
Yearling Steers	67.15	78.37	48.94	57.28	91.79	101.45
Yearling Heifers	16.96	19.80	21.61	25.24	39.16	43.21
Other Cattle	55.25	62.47	56.87	61.82	71.34	76.97
<b>Total Operating Costs:</b>	389.01	393.69	462.73	453.88	444.91	461.94
Purchased Cattle for Backgrounding	36.37	42.45	37.33	43.82	59.76	66.62
<b>Feed, Total Costs:</b>	248.78	248.51	323.28	307.42	267.78	275.07
Concentrates and Other Feed	19.79	20.28	22.26	22.71	23.87	24.06
Supplemental Feed	13.30	12.82	11.82	10.91	14.51	15.06
Harvested Forages	157.65	151.70	220.12	202.94	116.41	126.72
Cropland Pasture	3.53	3.88	3.81	3.75	13.45	12.57
Private Pasture	54.51	59.83	64.89	66.71	97.01	94.20
Public Land	0.00	0.00	0.38	0.40	2.53	2.46
<b>Other, Total Costs:</b>	103.86	102.73	102.12	102.64	117.37	120.25
Veterinary and Medicine	19.91	19.05	16.02	15.67	22.68	22.78
Bedding and Litter	0.01	0.01	0.56	0.53	0.39	0.38
Marketing	5.73	5.48	6.87	6.69	6.04	6.05
Custom Operations	20.79	19.90	26.83	26.15	31.92	32.12
Fuel, Lube and Electricity	27.07	27.07	15.65	15.64	19.10	19.08
Repairs	22.39	21.43	25.65	25.04	26.09	26.14
Interest on Operation Inputs	7.96	9.79	10.54	12.92	11.15	13.70
<b>Total Allocated Overhead</b>	754.16	770.59	401.46	409.69	452.48	468.66
Hired Labor	0.38	0.39	2.91	3.08	3.24	3.41
<b>Opportunity Cost of Unpaid Labor</b>	520.10	537.57	147.98	153.37	236.11	242.54
Capital Recovery cost of machinery and Equipment	154.47	151.58	166.26	166.78	121.34	128.61
Opportunity Cost of Land	2.50	2.42	2.25	2.32	2.56	2.63
Taxes and Insurance	25.42	26.07	31.39	32.15	32.29	33.12
General Farm Overhead	51.29	52.56	50.67	51.99	56.94	58.35
<b>Total Costs Listed</b>	1,143.17	1,164.28	864.19	863.57	897.39	930.60
<b>Value of Production Less Total Costs</b>	-771.14	-735.80	-513.02	-454.68	-465.13	-439.29
<b>Value of Production Less Operating</b>	-16.98	34.79	-111.56	-44.99	-12.65	29.37
<b>Supporting Information:</b>						
Bred Cows (head) 4/	53	53	50	50	83	83
Calves Weaned (head) 4/	44	44	38	38	71	71
Calving Season (% of Ranches) 4/:						
One	22	22	19	19	49	49
Two	14	14	23	23	13	13
None Set	64	64	58	58	38	38
<b>Cost of Homegrown Harvested Forages</b> (% of Total Cost) 4/ 5/	82	82	87	87	84	84
<b>Cost of Pasture Owned:</b>						
Private Pasture (% of Total Cost) 4/ 6/	87	87	87	87	72	72
Cropland Pasture (% of Total Cost) 4/	75	75	96	96	80	80

**Source:** Commodity Production Costs and Returns Data, Economic Research Service (ERS), USDA. Website at <http://www.ers.gov/data/costsandreturns/>. 1/ Includes the Delta region of Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana. 2/ Includes west, north central, and central part of Arkansas, and mostly Appalachian states. 3/ Includes 7 Farm Resource Regions for cow-calf production used by the ERS, with the other regions being Heartland, Northern Great Plains, Prairie Gateway, Fruitful Rim, and Basin and Range. 4/ Developed from survey base year, 1996. 5/ Percent of total harvested forage cost from charge on homegrown forages. 6/ Percent of total pasture cost from charge on owned pasture.

### OCTOBER EGG PRODUCTION, LAYERS, AND CHICKS HATCHED, 2000-2001

Item	Unit	ARKANSAS			UNITED STATES		
		2000	2001	% Chg.	2000	2001	% Chg.
<b>Egg Production Total</b>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	297	<b>282</b>	-5	7,130	7,329	+3
<b>Table Eggs</b>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	114	<b>106</b>	-7	6,063	6,242	+3
<b>Hatching Eggs</b>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	183	<b>176</b>	-4	1,067	1,087	+2
<b>All Layers 1/</b>	<i>Thousands</i>	14,874	<b>14,613</b>	-2	328,178	336,345	+2
<b>Rate of Lay 2/</b>	<i>Number</i>	1,997	<b>1,930</b>	-3	2,173	2,179	0
<b>Chicks Hatched:</b>							
<b>Egg Type</b>	<i>Thousands</i>	890	<b>828</b>	-7	36,077	36,501	+1
<b>Cumulative Jan.-Oct.</b>	<i>Thousands</i>	8,621	<b>8,332</b>	-3	362,758	387,314	+7
<b>Broiler Type</b>	<i>Thousands</i>	103,107	<b>108,109</b>	+5	711,278	739,733	+4
<b>Cumulative Jan.-</b>	<i>Thousands</i>	1,078,885	<b>1,071,363</b>	-1	7,378,430	7,436,502	+1

1/ Includes all layers in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

2/ Eggs produced per 100 layers in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

### OCTOBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION, CATTLE AND HOG SLAUGHTER, 2000 - 2001

Item	Unit	ARKANSAS			UNITED STATES		
		2000	2001	% Chg.	2000	2001	% Chg.
<b>Red Meat Production 1/</b>	<i>Million Lbs.</i>	5.5	6.4	+17 <sup>3/</sup>	4,099.2	4,263.3	+4
<b>Cattle Slaughter Total 2/</b>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	1.6	<b>1.3*</b>	-19	3,141.4	3,160.8	+1
<b>Federally Inspected</b>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	1.1	<b>0.9</b>	-18	3,082.0	3,102.5	+1
<b>Percent of Total</b>	<i>Percent</i>	69	<b>69</b>	-	98.1	98.2	-
<b>Total Live Weight</b>	<i>1,000 Lbs.</i>	1,604	<b>1,235</b>	-23	3,867,204	3,942,113	+2
<b>Average Live Weight 3/</b>	<i>Lbs.</i>	995	<b>951</b>	-4	1,231	1,247	+1
<b>Hog Slaughter Total 2/</b>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	4/	4/	-	8,882.1	9,330.0	+5
<b>Federally Inspected</b>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	4/	4/	-	8,745.7	9,209.2	+5
<b>Percent of Total</b>	<i>Percent</i>	4/	4/	-	98.5	98.7	-
<b>Total Live Weight</b>	<i>1,000 Lbs.</i>	4/	4/	-	2,331,502	2,487,615	+7
<b>Average Live Weight 3/</b>	<i>Lbs.</i>	4/	4/	-	262	267	+2

\* Record low for the month. 1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. 2/ Excludes slaughter on farms. 3/ Based on unrounded data. 4/ Arkansas data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations, but still included in the U.S. total. “-“ Percentage not calculated.

Arkansas calf, and sheep and lamb slaughter data are also not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

October 2001 contained 23 weekdays including one holiday and 4 Saturdays, compared to 22 weekdays including one holiday and 4 Saturdays in October 2000.